



Governors' Behaviour Statement

Policy approved and adopted: December 2023

Review date: December 2027

Background

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 and DfE guidance document for governing bodies (Behaviour and Discipline in Schools, 2015) requires the Governing Body to make and review a written statement of general behaviour principles to guide the Headteacher in determining measures to promote good behaviour.

At Cove Junior School, we believe it is important to create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents. We encourage clear, open communication links with parents as we believe it has a positive impact on pupils' learning. It provides parents with the information they need to support their child's education and helps to build a partnership between home and school. Such communication can be entirely positive and practical for example to seek information, ask a question, clear up a misunderstanding or to draw attention to a matter. Sometimes there is a need to resolve an issue or misunderstanding.

Introduction

This is a statement of principles, not practice. Practical application of these principles is the responsibility of the Headteacher.

The Governors at Cove Junior School believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school and enable children to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school life. At Cove Junior School, we recognise everyone as an individual who is capable of learning, change and development. Our relationships are underpinned by the principles of justice, equality, mutual respect, fairness and consistency.

Purpose

The purpose of this statement is to give guidance to the Headteacher in drawing up the Behaviour Policy by stating the principles, the Governors expect to be followed. This policy will be developed with reference to the DfE guidance document, 'Behaviour and Discipline in Schools – Advice for Headteachers and School Staff' (January 2016).

The Headteacher has a duty to publish this statement on the school website.

Principles

- All children, staff and visitors have the right to always feel safe at school, and procedures should consider the requirements of the Education Act 2002 in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
- Cove Junior School is an inclusive school. Bullying and harassment of any description is unacceptable, and all members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort. Measures to protect children should be set out in the Behaviour and Equality policies, reflecting the duties of the Equality Act 2010.
- High standards of behaviour are expected. The Governors believe children should be at the heart of the development of school expectations and these should be regularly reviewed with the involvement of the School Council and in consultation with staff. The school's behaviour expectations should be clearly set out in the Behaviour Policy and displayed around school. Governors expect these expectations to be consistently applied by all staff.
- Governors recognise that a wide range of rewards are used in school and expect these to be applied consistently and fairly in such a way as to encourage and reward good behaviour.
- Sanctions for unacceptable/poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and pupils, consistently applied, and regularly monitored to ensure effective impact.
- It is recognised that the use of rewards and sanctions must have regard to the individual situation and the individual student and the Headteacher is expected to use discretion in their use. Sanctions should however be applied fairly, consistently, proportionally, and reasonably, taking into account special educational needs and disability and the needs of vulnerable children.
- . Support and assessment from external agencies should be available as necessary for pupils who display continued disruptive behaviour.
- We believe children should be given opportunities and openly encouraged to support each other in the process of positive reinforcement and personal growth, learning and recognising good behaviour.
- We expect pupils and parents to cooperate to maintain an orderly climate for learning.
- The Governors strongly feel that suspensions and exclusions must only be used as the very last resort.
- The Governors wish to emphasise that violence, threatening behaviour or abuse by pupils or parents towards the school's staff will not be tolerated. If a parent does not conduct themselves properly, the school will follow the procedure laid out in the Parent Communication Policy, possibly including a ban from the school premises and, if the parent continues to cause disturbance, he or she may be liable to prosecution.
- The Governors expect the Headteacher to include guidance and clarification for staff on their powers to search for banned items, to use reasonable force, and to discipline pupils for misbehaviour outside school (including notifying the police) witnessed by a member of staff or reported to school when:
 - Taking part in school organised or related activity
 - Travelling to or from school
 - Wearing school uniform or in some other way identifiable as a pupil of Cove Junior School